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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECRET, [REDACTED]

COUNTRY	Rumania	REPORT NO.	[REDACTED] 25X1
SUBJECT	Warships in Constanta Harbor	DATE DISTR.	15 December 1953
	25X1	NO. OF PAGES	2
DATE OF INFO.	[REDACTED]	REQUIREMENT NO.	[REDACTED] 25X1
PLACE ACQUIRED	[REDACTED]	REFERENCES	

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1. On 3 August 1953, two well-kept destroyers [REDACTED] were in Constanta harbor. They were painted bluish-gray, had three smokestacks and had a twin gun behind a protective shield on the foredeck and a similar gun on the fantail, and a rangefinder between the second and third smokestack.

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The crews on the upperdeck wore dungarees or bathing shorts. The two vessels were not tied up along side the pier in the warship harbor basis, but were made fast with the stern to the pier, their bows pointing to the harbor.¹ A three-masted sail school ship with five yards, one above the other at each mast, was tied up north of these two destroyers, with sail drill performed on this ship several times daily.² Two small gunboats [REDACTED] were berthed south of the two destroyers. They had a plumb stem and two smokestacks, one higher than the other, and were armed with a single medium-caliber gun with a protective shield on the foredeck, another gun on a pedestal aft of the second smokestack, and a third gun a little staggered below the pedestal on the fantail. The two vessels were in good condition. They were north of a navy tugboat and another small navy vessel.

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[REDACTED] on 4 August 1953, the sail school ship left port and, after executing some sailing maneuvers east of the mole, dropped anchor on the roads. During the night the ship exchanged flashing signals with the signal station in the harbor. [REDACTED] on 5 August 1953, the ship put into port again and tied up to her previous berth. [REDACTED] on 4 August 1953, the two gunboats together with a third, unidentified vessel left port in line ahead. As they were passing

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SECRET, [REDACTED]

STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	#	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC						
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(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X"; Field Distribution By "##")

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SECRET [REDACTED]

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the harbor exit, the rearmost vessel was approached from north-east by a seaplane, which came over the town and then zoomed. The aircraft which was a sesquiplane two seater with a radial engine, floats and a plain tail unit, flew off toward west after its approach flight. On 5 August 1953, the gunboats put into port again.

1. [REDACTED] Comment. The two destroyers probably were MARASTI and MARASESTI. The rangefinder between the second and third smokestack was reported for the first time. Available information indicated that a gun was mounted between the second and the third smokestack and that the rangefinder was aft of the third smokestack at the mizzen mast. [REDACTED]

2. [REDACTED] Comment. Probably sail school ship MIRCEA.

3. [REDACTED] Comment. This type of gunboat was reported for the first time.

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